

First Record of the Masked Shrew in Western Kentucky

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In Kentucky, *Sorex cinereus* was previously known to occur only at Big Black Mountain, Harlan County, in extreme southeastern Kentucky (Barbour and Davis 1974). Hall and Kelson (1959) included *Sorex cinereus* in western Kentucky along the Ohio River, and Barbour and Davis (1974) suggested that it might occur in northern Kentucky on the basis of records from adjacent Indiana and Ohio. Between 22 November and 17 December 1976, 6 pit-fall can traps were set just west of U.S. 41, 0.7 miles (1.1 km) south of the Ohio River in Henderson County, Kentucky. From those cans, 1 white-footed mouse *Peromyscus leucopus*, 1 pine vole *Microtus pinetorum*, and 7 masked shrews *Sorex cinereus*, were captured. The cans were confined to 0.2 acres (0.08 ha) of river floodplain forest with numerous rotting logs and a thick mat of leaf litter.

The specimens compare favorably in coat color and body size to a series of 7 specimens from Hovey Lake, Posey County, Indiana (ISU 1080-1086). The means and ranges of standard body and skull measurements (Table 1) show little difference between the Indiana and Kentucky specimens. Cranial measurements follow Jackson (1928).

The type locality of *S. c. lesueurii* (Duvernoy) is the Wabash River Valley, Indiana. The exact locality was not listed, but specimens from all but southeastern Indiana have been referred to that subspecies by Mumford (1969). *Sorex c. lesueurii* is characterized by dark winter pelage, although much darker individuals are known to occur in Newton County, Indiana (ISU 996-998, 1910, 1911), 240 miles (ca. 380 km) north of Hovey Lake. The present locality is approximately 20 miles (32 km) east-northeast of Hovey Lake.

Ectoparasites were collected from 1 Henderson County *S. cinereus* and were identified by Dr. J. O. Whitaker, Jr., as *Protomyobia* sp., 11 (these are being studied further); *Orycterxenus soricis*, 10; and *Amorphacarus hengererorum*, 1 male.

The present specimens (ISU 3635-3640 and UKy 5243) constitute the second locality for the species in Kentucky and the first record for the subspecies *lesueurii*.

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TABLE 1.—MEANS AND RANGES OF STANDARD BODY AND SKULL MEASUREMENTS OF 2 SERIES OF *Sorex cinereus* FROM INDIANA AND KENTUCKY. ALL MEASUREMENTS ARE IN MILLIMETERS AND WEIGHTS ARE IN GRAMS

	Total length	Tail length	Hind foot length	Weight	Condylol-basal length	Cranial width	Maxillary width	Palatal length	Maxillary tooththrow length
Henderson County, Ky.	89.3 86-92 n = 7	36.7 36-40 n = 7	11.9 11.5-12.0 n = 7	3.2 2.9-3.7 n = 7	15.6 15.3-16.1 n = 7	7.5 7.4-7.7 n = 7	4.4 4.3-4.5 n = 7	6.5 6.3-6.8 n = 7	5.9 5.6-6.1 n = 7
Posey County, Ind.	86.1 81-91 n = 7	36.1 33-39 n = 7	11.9 11.0-13.0 n = 7	3.3 3.1-3.6 n = 7	15.9 15.4-16.4 n = 6	7.6 7.5-7.7 n = 6	4.4 4.3-4.5 n = 6	6.6 6.4-6.8 n = 6	5.9 5.8-6.0 n = 6

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